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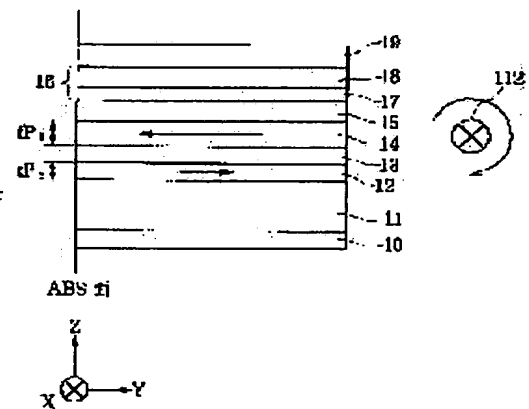
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(54) SPIN VALVE TYPE THIN-FILM ELEMENT AND THIN FILM MAGNETIC HEAD USING THIS SPIN VALVE TYPE THIN-FILM ELEMENT

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a spin valve type thin-film element with which the magnetization states of fixed magnetic layers can be maintained in a thermally stable state by controlling the direction to pass sense current to be in an adequate direction and a thin film magnetic head using this spin valve type thin film element.

SOLUTION: The magnetic moment of a first fixed magnetic layer 12 is higher than the magnetic moment of a second fixed magnetic layer 14 and the magnetic moment of the first fixed magnetic layer 12 faces a left direction. The synthetic magnetic moment of the first fixed magnetic layer 12 and the second fixed magnetic layer 14, therefore, faces the left direction. The sense current 112 is consequently passed in an X-direction to generate the sense current magnetic field clockwise with respect to the plane of Fig., by which the direction of the sense current magnetic field and the direction of the synthetic magnetic moment are aligned and the stability of the magnetization state of the first and second fixed magnetic layer can be improved.



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